

Madam Speaker, the whirlwind of Shorebreeze Runnymede will be remembered as a woman who made a difference. We are grateful that she was in leadership when a crisis hit her community and that she will remain an active resident as we edge our way into more normal times ahead.

HONORING MRS. KATHY J.
THOMAS

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my district staffers, Mrs. Kathy J. Thomas. I met Kathy in 2019 and quickly brought her on staff as a Constituent Liaison in my Gulfport district office. During her tenure, Kathy has assisted nearly 3,000 constituents through casework with compassion and dedication.

Kathy grew up in West Virginia in the small town of Follansbee. In 1988, she graduated from Brooke High School, and shortly thereafter, she married her high school sweetheart, Mark. After their wedding, she and her new husband moved to Biloxi, MS, where he served in the United States Navy Seabees and Master Chief to Command Master Chief. Her grandfather, Kale E. Wells, served in the United States Navy during WWII. Kale would have been proud of her decision to marry Mark as he rose through the ranks to retire after serving 30 years as a Master Chief.

Kathy and her husband raised two beautiful, intelligent daughters, Taylor and Riley. Taylor graduated from Mississippi State and the University of South Alabama and works as a Labor and Delivery Nurse at USA Children's and Women's Hospital in Mobile, AL. Riley graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi and recently started a job at the DuBard School for Language Disorders in Hattiesburg, MS.

Kathy attended Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, earning an associate degree. Kathy volunteered for years as an ombudsman as her husband served and deployed with the United States Navy Seabees. While raising her daughters, she worked as a preschool teacher and assistant teacher. Her passion and dedication to helping others led her to work as a Congressional Liaison making a difference in the daily lives of the constituents of South Mississippi.

Kathy has been a valued, loyal, dedicated, and compassionate asset to my staff and me. I am grateful for her positivity and can-do attitude over the years. It is my honor to express my gratitude to Mrs. Kathy Thomas for her service to Mississippi and my constituents.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING
THE LIFE OF THE HONORABLE
RICHARD A. SHIRLEY

HON. JEFF DUNCAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today with profound sadness to remember and

honor the life of Richard A. Shirley of Anderson who passed away on December 8th at the age of 68. Before his unexpected passing, Richard served as the Clerk of the Court in Anderson County.

In 1978, Richard began his career in public service by being elected to the Anderson City Council, becoming the youngest person ever to be elected to the council. In 1998, Richard was elected Mayor of Anderson and faithfully served as mayor for 8 years. During his tenure as mayor, he played an important role in revitalizing the Anderson Soiree festival and making Anderson the prosperous place it is today. Richard was also a successful local community banker for over 30 years and proud graduate of T.L. Hanna High School and Presbyterian College.

Richard was a proud husband, father, son, and friend and he will be immensely missed by the community of Anderson. Richard will be remembered for his constant smile, witty humor, and his love of God and country. I am reminded of the verse Mark 10:45, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Richard had a servant's heart and was always there to help people with a smile and those in need. His profound impact on the Anderson community will be felt for generations to come.

Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to be able to serve the Third District of South Carolina and to honor my dear friend, Richard Shirley. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this time.

TRIBUTE ON THE BIRTH OF
HENRY LEE DRAGANO

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, today I am happy to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Garrett and Cecelia Dragano, of Aiken, South Carolina, on the birth of their new baby son. Henry Lee Dragano was born on December 5, 2022, at 7:56 p.m., weighing 8 pounds and 7 ounces. He has been born into a loving home, where he will be raised by parents who are devoted to his well-being and bright future. His birth is a blessing. On behalf of my wife Roxanne, and our entire family, we want to wish Garrett, Cecelia, and Henry all the best.

RECOGNIZING BILL WILD

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, today I want to acknowledge the legacy and dedication of William "Bill" Wild for his more than 20 years of public service to our communities.

Mayor Wild is Westland's longest-serving mayor. A Westland native and graduate of John Glenn High School, Mayor Wild took pride in giving back to the community that raised him. He was especially proud of his accomplishments in helping improve infrastruc-

ture, including an overhaul of Westland's municipal center, building a vibrant shopping district, and bringing a citywide recycling program to Westland.

Mayor Wild's commitment and many years of services has been exceptional and outstanding. The 13th District, Wayne County and the Westland community extend their gratitude to Mayor Bill Wild for his many contributions to the growth and prosperity of Westland. It has been an honor to be one of his many partners serving Westland neighborhoods.

Please join me as we recognize Mayor Bill Wild's many contributions to the families of the Westland and 13th Congressional District as we wish him well.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE
ANNE OLIVA AS SHE ENDS HER
TERM OF SERVICE ON THE
MILLBRAE CITY COUNCIL

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize my friend and colleague Millbrae Mayor Anne Oliva as she steps down from the city council at the end of her present term, and after serving nine years on the council. She has distinguished herself by doing outstanding work while in elective office.

Anne has lived in Millbrae for more than 20 years. She was appointed to the Millbrae City Council in 2013 to fill a vacancy and was elected to a full four year term in November of that year. Her top priorities at the time were building economic strength and sustainability, protecting private property rights, and ensuring public safety. Millbrae was emerging from the housing recession and its downtown business district was suffering. Hotel occupancy taxes, a major source of city revenue, were significantly depressed. The city's budget had been cut repeatedly and difficult decisions lay ahead.

In subsequent years, Anne and her colleagues made tough choices. They contracted for police services from the San Mateo County Sheriff's office, a decision that was discussed at great length due to the affection that the people of Millbrae had for their own department. Economic growth came with controversy. Millbrae is a major transportation hub with a combined BART and Caltrain station serving thousands of daily commuters. The council approved a large development on the BART parking lot, delivering hundreds of units of needed housing, a new hotel and accompanying tax revenue, offices, and retail to serve all. Anne supported the development as part of her promise to build the economic strength of the city and the sustainability of its budget.

Her experience as a real estate agent and broker has informed her public service. She served on the Board of Directors of the San Mateo County Association of Realtors, including on its legislative committee and as President. She also served on similar legislative committees for the California Association of Realtors and the National Association of Realtors. When the County of San Mateo sought assistance from property owners and managers to find apartments for persons holding